

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 172539

62

ORIGIN EUR-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, YO (MIHAJLOVIC)

SUBJECT: COMMEMORATION OF MIHAJLOVIC'S BIRTHDAY

REF: (A) STATE 154986; (B) STATE 154653

1. WHEN HE CALLED AT DEPARTMENT TO DISCUSS CYPRUS SITUATION RECENTLY(STATE 159450), YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR GRANFIL HANDED EUR/EE DIRECTOR THE FOLLOWING TYPE-WRITTEN STATEMENT CONCERNING THE JULY 17 CEREMONY ON WEST STEPS OF CAPITAL COMMEMORATING THE BIRTHDAY OF DRAZA MIHAJLOVIC: BEGIN TEXT. I HAD NO INTENTION TO DISCUSS AT THIS MEETING A MATTER OF ACTIVITIES OF YUGOSLAV EXTREMIST EMIGRATION IN THE UNITED STATES. HOWEVER, THE HOSTILE MANIFESTATIONS OF JULY 17TH ON THE STEPS OF CAPITOL HILL IN WASHINGTON, WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF SOME AMERICAN POLITICAL PERSONALITIES, DEMAND THAT WE CLEARLY STATE WHAT WE THINK ABOUT SUCH AN ACT.

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PAGE 02 STATE 172539

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR DISSATISFACTION AND OUR AMAZE-

MENT THAT SUCH A DEMONSTRATION OF CHETNIK EMIGRES HAS TAKEN PLACE, AND PARTICULARLY WITH THE PARTICIPATION IN IT OF AMERICAN POLITICAL FACTORS AND THE PUBLICITY IN THE AMERICAN PRESS, CELEBRATING THE WAR CRIMINAL DRAZA MIHAJLOVIC.

ONE MUST ASK ONESELF A QUESTION: WHO TODAY NEEDS TO CELEBRATE A QUISLING, TO FALSIFY THE HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II AND THE ROLE OF CHETNIKS AND DRAZA MIHAJLOVIC; BECAUSE THESE ACTIONS REPRESENT THE SUPPORT ON THE TERRITORY OF THE USA OF GROUPS WHO OPENLY DECLARED THEMSELVES AGAINST THE SOVEREIGNTY AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE SFR OF YUGOSLAVIA AND ENCOURAGE TERRORISM BY WHICH THESE GROUPS ARE ALSO KNOWN TO AMERICAN AUTHORITIES.

TO TOLERATE SUCH ACTIONS CANNOT BUT HARM OUR RELATIONS AND WE EARNESTLY HOPE AND EXPECT THAT IN FUTURE SUCH GROUPS WILL NOT GAIN THE SUPPORT OF OFFICIAL AMERICAN POLITICAL FACTORS AND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL INFORM THOSE MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WHO FROM TIME TO TIME PARTICIPATE IN THESE ACTIONS ON THE FACTUAL SITUATION AND U.S. RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA, SO THAT FURTHER PLANS OF THE CHETNIK EMIGRATION - TO ERECT A MONUMENT TO DRAZA MIHAJLOVIC IN WASHINGTON - ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BE CARRIED OUT.

IN THIS CONTEXT ALSO, I WISH ONLY TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ONCE AGAIN DRAW ATTENTION TO THE THREATS ON LIFE AND OTHER ACTS AGAINST YUGOSLAV DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICERS IN THE UNITED STATES, AND NEW YORK IN PARTICULAR, AND THE TERROR THAT GROUPS OF CHETNIK AND USTASHI EMIGRES EXERT TOWARDS PEOPLE - YUGOSLAV CITIZENS IN PERMANENT RESIDENCE IN THE USA OR AMERICANS OF YUGOSLAV DESCENT WHO FAVOR NORMAL AND FRIENDLY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SFR OF YUGOSLAVIA. END TEXT.

2. YUGOSLAV COUNSELOR STRBAC HAS REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT TO CALL ON COUNTRY OFFICER FOR YUGOSLAVIA AUGUST 10 TO DISCUSS FURTHER THE THREATS AGAINST YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS MENTIONED IN THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE STATE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 172539

MENT. COUNTRY OFFICER WILL TAKE OPPORTUNITY OF STRBAC'S CALL TO MAKE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE YUGOSLAV STATEMENT:

(A) STRIDENT STATEMENTS SUCH AS THIS DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS TO COMBAT TERRORISM AND TO PREVENT EMIGRE PROBLEMS FROM HAVING A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON OUR RELATIONS;

(B) THIS STATEMENT FAILS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT FACT THAT THERE WAS NO REPEAT NO OFFICIAL USG PARTICIPATION IN JULY 17 CEREMONY; IN FACT, DEPARTMENT TOOK STEPS TO ASSURE THERE WOULD BE NO SUCH REPRESENTATION;

(C) STATEMENT IGNORES FACT THAT CONGRESSMEN ACT AS INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR CONSTITUENCIES AND ARE CLEARLY INDEPENDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH;

(D) IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO INTERPRET THE PARTICIPATION IN THIS CEREMONY OF CERTAIN U.S. CONGRESSMEN AS HOSTILITY TO THE PRESENT GOV OR SUPPORT FOR POSSIBLE EXTREMIST ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST IT; IN FACT, SOME OF CONGRESSMEN WHO PARTICIPATED HAVE BEEN OUTSPOKEN SUPPORTERS OF GOOD U.S.-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS;

(E) ANYONE WOULD UNDERSTAND THE SENSE OF GRATITUDE OF THOSE AMERICAN PILOTS WHO WERE RESCUED BY "CHETNIK, ELEMENTS DURING WORLD WAR II; AND

(F) DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO RESPOND VIGOROUSLY TO ANY THREATS AGAINST YUGOSLAV AND ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH COME TO ITS ATTENTION.

3. FYI. ONLY RECENT THREATS AGAINST YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS KNOWN TO DEPARTMENT WERE TELEPHONE THREATS AGAINST LIFE OF CONSUL GENERAL BULAJIC (NEW YORK) LAST YEAR. END FYI. KISSINGER

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